

## Mint of the United States at Philadelphia,

MELTING AND REFINING DEPARTMENT,

Philadelphia, 24<sup>th</sup> Sept. —, 1885.

Sir,

Having just received your letter of the 21<sup>st</sup> Inst. in relation to ashes (wood) made in the Mint, I have the honor to state that I been in the practice of buying it, when notified by Mr J. Maginnis, of the Coining(?) Department, that there was a superfluity of it, on hand, and that no one wished it. In such a case I have generally, but not always, purchased it, at the rate of ten (10) cents per bushel. I know not whether I obtained all on hand at anytime, but was satisfied with whatever the amount was. I was assured that the measurement given me was correct and I paid by that measurement, without ever seeing the ashes, or having it measured myself. If the measurement varied from that told me, I never



knew of it, and from a general estimate of a pile on my farm, I infer that I obtained the alleged amount. I never knew whether I obtained all the ashes made at the Mint, but infer that I did not, before the last year or two, perhaps 3 years, because I obtained little or none for some time, prior to these last years.

I can ascertain from my accounts, which are at my Residence, how much I have recently obtained, and probably the exact date of the last purchase.

Very Respectfully

J. H. Booth

Hon. Daniel M. Fox

M & R

Superintendent

Mint of the United States at Philadelphia,  
Melting and Refining Department,  
Philadelphia,  
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